

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as indicated hereafter. It is believed that the following amendments and additions add no new matter to the present application.

Please add the following paragraph on page 1, line 2:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority to European Patent Application No. EP-02 019936.0, filed September 4, 2002.

In the Abstract: [Use ~~strikethrough~~ for deleted matter (or double square brackets "[[]]" if the ~~strikethrough~~ is not easily perceivable, *i.e.*, "4" or a punctuation mark) and underlined for added matter.]

ABSTRACT

A ~~The invention involves~~ a surgical ring (1) designed to be implanted around (a) biological organ(s) ~~comprising a pouch or a duct, so as to modify the cross-sectional area of the passage of said organ when it is tightened by the ring, said,~~ the ring (1) being formed by a flexible band (2) including ~~comprising~~ a first and second extremity (3, 4), ~~the said~~ flexible band (2) being designed to be closed near its two extremities (3, 4) by a closure system so as to form a closed loop featuring an internal contact surface (2A) ~~with the biological organ~~ and an opposite external 10 surface (2B), ~~characterized in that the~~ The closure system includes ~~features~~ a means of encircling (5) that is integral with the first extremity (3) and arranged to evolve between[[: -]] a de-latching configuration, where the means of encircling (5) forms an open collar freeing the second extremity (4), and [[-]] a latching configuration where the means of encircling (5) forms a closed collar designed to surround the second extremity (4) so as to unite it with the first extremity (3), ~~the said~~ closed collar having opposite front (6) and rear (7) faces, between which an encircling opening extends that is designed to accept the second extremity (4).